

2002 Summer Sunshine Awards

Application Package

Through the *Summer Sunshine Awards*, the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) recognizes the outstanding achievements and hard work that has occurred throughout the country in providing nutritious meals to children through the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) and the Seamless Summer Feeding Waiver available to school food authorities. These awards allow USDA the opportunity to recognize creative, successful strategies and share them with other sponsors and state agencies.

The USDA is accepting applications for the *2002 Summer Sunshine Awards* in the following three categories:

1. Service to Special Populations
2. Successful Outreach
3. Expansion through the Seamless Summer Feeding Waiver

Eligible Applicants

- Local-level sponsors operating SFSP are eligible to apply, or be nominated, for the categories of Service to Special Populations and Successful Outreach.
- **School food authorities providing summer meals through the Seamless Summer Feeding Waiver** are eligible to apply, or be nominated, for the category Expansion through the Seamless Summer Feeding Waiver.

Award Categories, Evaluation Criteria, and Questions for Narrative Submission

Narratives are limited to 3 pages, single-sided, 12-point font or larger, and should address all questions under the appropriate category. The narratives will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

Innovation (maximum 30 points). Maximum score will be awarded to applicants who use creative measures to expand summer feeding operations and promote participation in the Program.

Sustainability (maximum 25 points). Maximum score will be awarded to applicants whose efforts help ensure continued program participation by sponsors and/or eligible children.

Transferability (maximum 25 points). Maximum score will be awarded to applicants whose initiatives can be successfully replicated by sponsors, state agencies or program advocates in other areas.

Cost Effectiveness (maximum 15 points). Maximum score will be awarded to applicants whose efforts make good use of available resources, including nonprogram resources.

Presentation (maximum 5 points). Maximum score will be awarded to applications that are complete, clear, and succinct. Narratives must not exceed the 3-page limit.

Total Maximum Score: 100 points

Service to Special Populations

This award is presented to a SFSP sponsor that targets and serves special populations of children. Special populations may include: children of migrant workers; American Indian or Alaska Native children; children from other minority groups; children in rural areas; and children with special needs.

Your narrative should describe your efforts and results in reaching a special population through the SFSP, including:

- The group of children served, and a description of the site(s) where meals were provided;
- Specific steps taken to reach this group of children;
- Challenges or barriers encountered and how they were addressed;
- The nonprogram resources (e.g., monetary contributions, in-kind donations, volunteers, partnerships with other organizations) that were utilized in your efforts; and
- The children's continued participation over the course of the program and the outlook for next year.

Successful Outreach

This award is presented to an SFSP sponsor that uses creative strategies to promote participation of eligible children in its program.

Your narrative should describe your efforts and results in promoting your program, including:

- Specific steps taken to promote your program and reach eligible children, and their impact;
- The most effective techniques used in reaching the children;
- Challenges or barriers encountered and how they were addressed;
- The nonprogram resources (e.g., monetary contributions, in-kind donations, volunteers, partnerships with other organizations) that were utilized in your efforts; and
- The children's continued participation over the course of the program and the outlook for next year.

Expansion through the Seamless Summer Feeding Waiver

This award is presented to a school food authority, providing summer meals through the Seamless Summer Feeding Waiver that demonstrates substantial service to community children. The school food authority could be new to serving summer meals as a result of the Waiver or a former SFSP sponsor that substantially increased summer meal service to community children.

Your narrative should describe your efforts and results in providing service to community children including:

- Specific steps taken to reach community children, and their impact;
- The impact of the Waiver on your program operations;
- Challenges or barriers encountered and how they were addressed;
- The nonprogram resources (e.g., monetary contributions, in-kind donations, volunteers, partnerships with other organizations) that were utilized in your efforts; and
- The children's continued participation over the course of the program and the outlook for next year.

How to Apply

Applicants for the *2002 Summer Sunshine Awards* must complete and submit an entry form for sponsors, as applicable, and a narrative (3 pages, maximum), which addresses the questions listed under the appropriate award category.

The California Department of Education, Nutrition Services Division must receive sponsor nominations by August 12, 2002. The USDA's, Food Nutrition Services (FNS), Western Region office is responsible for selecting one nominee per category. The nominations will be forwarded to USDA, FNS headquarters for final review and selection of winners.

Notification of Winners

Winners will be notified in writing by USDA shortly after the final selections are made. Selected nominees and category winners may be featured in a publication that promotes SFSP or be invited to participate in future meetings. Please be aware that there is no monetary compensation for these awards.

Questions

If you have any questions, please contact Melissa Garza at (916) 322-5885 or mgarza@cde.ca.gov.

**2002 Summer Sunshine Awards
Sponsor Entry Form**

Please complete the information on this page and attach it to your narrative to be eligible for consideration for a *2002 Summer Sunshine Award*.

Name of Applicant: _____

Address: _____

Contact Person: _____ Title: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____

E-mail: _____

Name of Program: _____

Award Category for which you are applying (circle one):

Service to Special Populations

Successful Outreach

Expansion through the Seamless Summer Feeding Waiver

Meal service(s) you provide during the summer (circle all that apply):

breakfast lunch snack supper

Program Information (please use combined totals of all sites/sponsors)

Number of summer feeding sites in your program: _____

Total average daily attendance at your feeding site(s): _____

The estimated percentage of children served on an average day who are:

American Indian or Alaska Native _____

African American _____

Hispanic _____

Migrant children _____

Children in rural areas _____

Children with special needs _____

Other (please specify) _____

Complete the following information if you provided summer meals in 2001.

Number of summer feeding sites _____

Total average daily attendance _____

If you are part of a partnership, please list the amount of money and/or additional resources (staff time, donated food items) your partnering agency(ies) contributed for the 2002 summer program:

a. money, in \$ amount _____

b. additional resources, please specify resource and amount below:

(Do not write below this line)

******FOR STATE AGENCY USE ONLY******

State agencies applying for the category of *State Agency Achievement* do not need to complete this section for their application.

Name (please print): _____

Title: _____

SFSP State Agency: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____